GOOD NEWS FOR HOMEMAKERS

By Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent

JELLY MAKING PROBLEMS

Many of you are still making jellies and jams. Some of you have had problems this year with the jelly jellying and other difficulties. I would like to share with you today some of the most common problems in jelly making and the causes. Maybe this will help you as you make the last jellies and jams for the 1978 season.

1. Cloudy jelly - Jelly poured too slowly or too late will be cloudy. If the jell set has already started to form, the jelly particles will hold tiny air bubbles. Pulpy juice also causes cloudy jelly. It can be strained through a clean wet jelly bag. Premature setting, usually the result of using fruit too green, can also cause too much natural pectin and acid and create a cloudy substance.

2. Color changes - Darkening at the top of a jar of jelly is caused by too warm a temperature or by air getting through the paraffin. Fading is also caused in some fruits. Strawberries and raspberries especially fade easily. Jellies should be kept in a cool dark place.

3. Crystals in Jelly - This is caused by too much sugar, too slow or too long cooking. Too little cooking so that the sugar is not completely in solution can create crystals. Tartrate crystals are found in grape jelly frequently. These are seldom found when the short boil method is used. Evaporation of uncovered jelly crystals on the top only also can be found if not properly covered with paraffin or sealed.

4. Fermentation - This is caused by too little sugar or improper sealing or storing. Do not reduce sugar called for in a recipe. A certain percentage is necessary for a jelly set. Either the necessary amount must be added at the beginning or the jelly boiled down until evaporation gives the proper proportion. The jelly will be just as sweet either method you use. Jellies should be covered at once with new, hot paraffin. Do not use paraffin that has been saved from last year's jelly glasses. The jelly jars or glasses should be covered with scalded lids and sealed. They should be stored in a cool dry place.

5. Floating Fruit (in jam) - This is caused by fruit not fully ripe, fruit not crushed or ground thoroughly and fruit not cooked enough. As jam cools, it thickens slightly, holding the fruit in suspension in the syrup. Jam that you are sealing with a two-piece lid should not be cooled before pouring. The jars should be sealed immediatley and then you can shake them gently after about 30 minutes to get the fruit evenly dispersed throughout the syrup solution.

6. Gummy Jelly - This problem is caused by overcooking - Too much invert sugar formed; that's when sugar turns to syrup and this causes gummy jelly.

7. Mold on Jelly - This is caused by an imperfect seal. Use new paraffin. As soon as jelly is poured, cover with a thin coat, 1/8 inch, of hot paraffin. To make sure it is smooth and of even thickness, measure melted paraffin into a tablespoon and pour over hot jelly. When filling glasses, leave ½ inch of space at the top so separation of small amount of liquid, which is normal, will not run over. After the paraffin has hardened, cover glasses with scalded tin or lid. Should you find mold on your jelly cut out the mold at least one inch below where you located it. Should you locate mold on all of your jelly, you may wish to reparaffin the jelly after you have scraped the molded jelly out.

8. Stiff Jelly - This problem is caused when the fruit is not fully ripe. This means that too much natural pectin is already in your fruit and you are probably also using powdered pectin or liquid pectin to help cause jellying. Overcooking also causes stiff jelly. This is because of excessive evaporation of liquid. Another cause of stiff jelly is too much pectin or too much sugar.

9. Syrupy Jelly - Too little pectin, acid or sugar to balance the proportion can cause this problem. A great excess of sugar also can cause syrupy jelly. The moral of this is to use proper measurements, standard measuring cups, and not to guess at all when making jelly.

10. Thin Jelly - Too much prepared juice can cause thin jelly. Inaccuratge measurements can cause this also. You should never increase the recipe because you have an extra cup or so of juice. Insufficient sugar can also cause thin jelly, and then if your fruit is excessively sweet and overripe, this can mean that there is a lack of acidity in the fruit. This can cause our jelly to be thin. Never omit lemon juice if it is called for in a recipe. Be sure to always measure accurately. This can be our problem.

11. Weakened Jelly - This is caused by an unbalanced recipe, too heavy a layer of paraffin or too warm storage. Remember, your jellies should be stored in a dry, dark, cool place.

Should you have homemaking questions or problems, please call or write the Appomattox County Extension Office. We are always glad to help you.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Strawberry Ice Box Cake

1 lb. vanilla wafers
1½ sticks butter
1½ cups sugar
2 eggs
1 qt. strawberries
1 pt. whipping cream

Crush wafers very fine. Melt ½ stick butter; mix wafer crumbs and butter together. Spread ⅔ of the crumbs firmly into a 9 x 13 pan. Cream 1 stick of butter with sugar and beat until fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, and beat well. Spread mixture over crumbs then arrange a layer of strawberries. Top with whipped cream and sprinkle with remaining crumbs over all. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

Thanks to Frances Wilson for sharing this delicious recipe with us.

OAKVILLE

Mrs. Dorothy Livengood of Roanoke, Mrs. Overton Moore and Mrs. Thelma Martin were dinner guest last Monday of Mrs. Garland Burcher.

Mrs. A. C. Seal, Karin and Lewis are spending a few days with Mrs. Mary J. Burcher.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Burcher visited Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Jordan and Katherine Sunday p.m.

Mr. Wiley Moore has returned from a week end trip to Portsmouth, Va.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Bob Monigold and family to our community. They have recently moved here from California.

Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Covington and Marjorie Mae visited Mrs. Iva Covington, Sunday also visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack King.

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BIG CATCH!

Jerry Ayers, is shown above with a 22-pound mackeral he caught while on vacation at Nags Head in North Carolina. There were only two caught during that entire week.

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Hollywood

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson Jr., Shannon and Larry Watson of Alexandria visited Mr. Watson's parents Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson Sr. during the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryland Mayberry and Mrs. Ioan Mayberry of Newport News spent Monday night, Tuesday and Wednesday in Appomattox and Charlotte Court House. They were called home Monday due to the death of Mr. Walter Carwile of Charlotte Court House. Mr. Carwile was the grandfather of Mrs. Ryland Mayberry. Deepest sympathy is extended his family and loved ones.

Miss Shelia Franklin spent Saturday night and Sunday with Miss Julia Wingfield and family. They attended church services at Rocks Church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Whit Woodall of Lynchburg and Mr. and Mrs. Garland W. Banton of Ashland, Ky visited Mrs. Mary Bagby Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Thomas Woodall and Lisa spent a few days last week in Covington with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Coffey and family.

Mrs. Claude Hamlett and daughter Brenda of Hurt visited Mrs. Virgie Beasley Thursday. Mr. Grover Beasley Jr., visited Mrs. Beasley Sunday.

Mrs. W. T. Covington spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman. Rev. Otis Smith of Charlottesville and Mr. Calvin Smith visited in this home during the week.

The family of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Torrence held their annual reunion Sunday at the Woodman of the World Building in Appomattox.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Webb, Miss Joyce Webb and Mrs. Robert Gilbert were super guest Friday night of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stautley.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Wingfield spent a few days last week at their home in Appomattox. Mrs. Garey Wingfield and daughter Becky of Roanoke spent Friday night and Saturday in this home. They called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wingfield and family and Mrs. Mary Bagby.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland W. Banton visited Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Webb and Mr. Walker Webb Friday night. Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sheets visited in this home Friday night also.

Mrs. Sam Powell and Mrs. Marge Grams of Halifax were visitors Saturday afternoon of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson Sr.

Mrs. Edna Covington, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman, Mrs. J. L. Torrence and Mrs. James Conner spent Thursday in Farmville with Mrs. Etta Turns Lewis.

Mrs. Phyliss Davis and other relatives visited Mr. and Mrs. Andy Davis and family Saturday.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Mr. William P. Carson and Mr. Billy Parish. Deepest sympathy is extended both their families.

Among those calling in the home of Mrs. Mary Bagby last week were Mr. Alfred Almond, Mrs. Andy Davis and daughter, and Mrs. Kenneth Deaner and Dawn and Mrs. Bill Watson and children.

A good many from Hollywood church attended the baptismal and praching service at Kedron Baptist Church at Gladys Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Jennings and granddaughter attended the Torrence reunion and spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Webb and family.

Mrs. Kenneth Wingfield and son spent Sunday with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Deaner and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Davis and Robin spent Sunday in Cumberland.

SCHOOL OPENING SET AUGUST 28

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the dress or shirt of each student to help with identification.

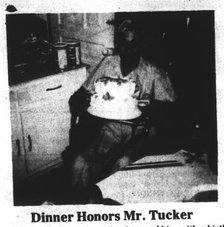
Other Information

Parents are requested to send their children to school on the bus the first day, especially primary and elementary pupils. This will enable the teachers to direct the pupils to the correct bus in the afternoon for the return trip home.

Parents can expect their children to bring home certain forms which you are requested to fill out and return to the school. It is necessary to have this information on file in the school office for each pupil.

Parents who have moved into the county during the summer who have children who will attend school this fall should go to the appropriate school or schools to register. The schools in the county and telephone numbers are: Pamplin Elementary School (248-6108), Appomattox County High School (352-7146), Appomattox Middle School (352-8257), Appomattox Elementary School (352-7463), and Appomattox Primary School (352-5766.).

All principals urge you to give them your cooperation regarding opening day procedures. The staffs are concerned about the safety and welfare of students as they make the trip to and from school each day, as well as the hours spent in school.



Dinner Honors Mr. Tucker

The children of James H. Tucker honored him with a birthday dinner and reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Tucker on the occasion of his 93rd birthday. Mr. Tucker was 93 on August 7th.

A delicious dinner was served buffet style and was enjoyed by all. The dining room table was centered with a large decorated birthday cake.

Big CAN be beautiful!

By Elaine Monroe,
Fashion Director
Sears, Roebuck and Co.

The generously curved larger woman, often called fashion's stepchild (although an estimated 25 million women wear size 16 or larger), may be fashion's newest darling. Happily, the more ample among us are starting to carry weight with the garment industry.

This season much more than the usual basic colors and shapes will be available. The bigger beauties can wear sundresses in feminine prints and the three-tiered silhouette.

Tops include a peasanty tunic with drawstring neckline, bow-tied and cowl-collared blouses and T-shirts in shades such as rose pink and mint green. Color-cued coordinates feature blazers or sweaters to mix with tops and trousers in pimiento red, mint green and light spruce blue.

Where can the fine figure of a woman find such fashion? In the 40-page, full-color Apparel Catalog of Half Sizes and Women's Sizes for spring and summer '78 from Sears, available at any Sears selling unit.

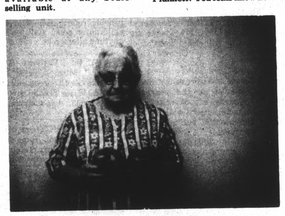
Nothing But The Best

This beautiful field of tobacco, approximately 1.4 acres of Virginia 312 is growing on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Plunkett of Appomattox. Growing this tobacco jointly with Mr. Plunkett are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Campbell of Appomattox. Shown above with Mr. Plunkett are three of the Campbell family that worked in this tobacco, Terry, Charles and Becky; also working but not shown in the picture is Cindy Campbell.

Mr. Plunkett said that one ton of 4-8-12 fertilizer was used and it was side dressed with 8-0-24.

While Mr. Plunkett admitted that the Campbell family really worked hard on this tobacco, I kind of got the idea that Mr. Plunkett did most of his farming from under the tree in the back yard!!

Congratulations to the Campbell family and to you too Mr. Plunkett! You folks know how to grow tobacco!



MRS. MOSES RAISES GOOD GARDEN

Mrs. Irvin C. Moses who has passed her 82nd birthday is quite a gardener as evidenced by the unusually large tomatoes she is holding. Except for the plowing, Mrs. Moses cares for her garden without help. She is proud of the yield of her labor which includes onions, okra, beets, cucumbers, corn, string beans, cabbage, squash and of course, tomatoes.

Mrs. Moses has one tomato vine that has produced a tomato weighing two pounds and approximately a dozen weighing one pound or more.

In addition to caring for her garden, Mrs. Moses does all of her housework, canning, and freezing without help.

On her recent visit to the **TIMES-VIRGINIAN** office Mrs. Moses said, "I am so thankful for all the many things our dear Heavenly Father gives us from day to day including health and strength. Still, home-grown tomatoes taste better than the old devil!

Late September or early October is a good time to spray lawns with herbicides to control weeds, recommended Virginia Tech Extension home horticulturists. The local Virginia Tech Extension office has the most recent recommendations on what kinds of herbicides to use.

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P185/75R14	DR78X14	2.32	56.97	48.00*
P195/75R14	ER78x14	2.40	59.97	51.00*
P205/75R14	FR78x14	2.58	64.97	55.00*
P215/75R14	GR78x14	2.76	67.97	58.00*
P225/75R14	HR78x14	2.96	73.97	63.00*
P215/75R15	GR78x15	2.83	72.97	62.00*
P225/75R15	HR78x15	3.03	75.97	65.00*
	JR78x15	3.19	78.97	67.00*
P235/75R15	LR78x15	3.34	85.97	73.00*

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P195/75R14	ER78x14	2.21	43.97	37.37*
P205/75R14	FR78x14	2.47	49.97	42.47*
P215/75R14	GR78x14	2.59	52.97	45.02*
P215/75R15	GR78x15	2.79	56.97	48.42*
P225/75R15	HR78x15	2.94	59.97	50.97*
P235/75R15	LR78x15	3.04	68.97	58.62*

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GR70x14	3.04	68.97	61.97*
GR70x15	3.12	71.97	64.97*
HR70x15	3.30	76.97	68.97*
LR70x15	3.64	82.97	74.97*

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